

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1047
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2005
CLEARANCE TO IRON PLANTS
Oram Shri Jual

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sponge iron plants set up in Orissa have been given clearance despite the fact that adequate pollution control measures have not been adopted by any of these plants ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not following the norms before giving permission?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) : As per the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 1994, new sponge iron plants with investment above Rs.100 Crores and expansion/modernization plants with investment above Rs.50 Crores are required to obtain environmental clearance from the Central Government. Out of 26 Sponge Iron Plants reportedly operating in Orissa as on date, so far, the Government has received only one proposal of Sponge Iron Plant by M/s. Tata Sponge Iron Limited located at Joda in Orissa for environmental clearance. The Government has accorded environmental clearance to the same with stipulation of specific and general environmental safeguards. No instance of violation of the stipulated environmental clearance conditions by M/s. Tata Sponge Iron Limited has been brought to the notice of the Government.